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Benbrook News

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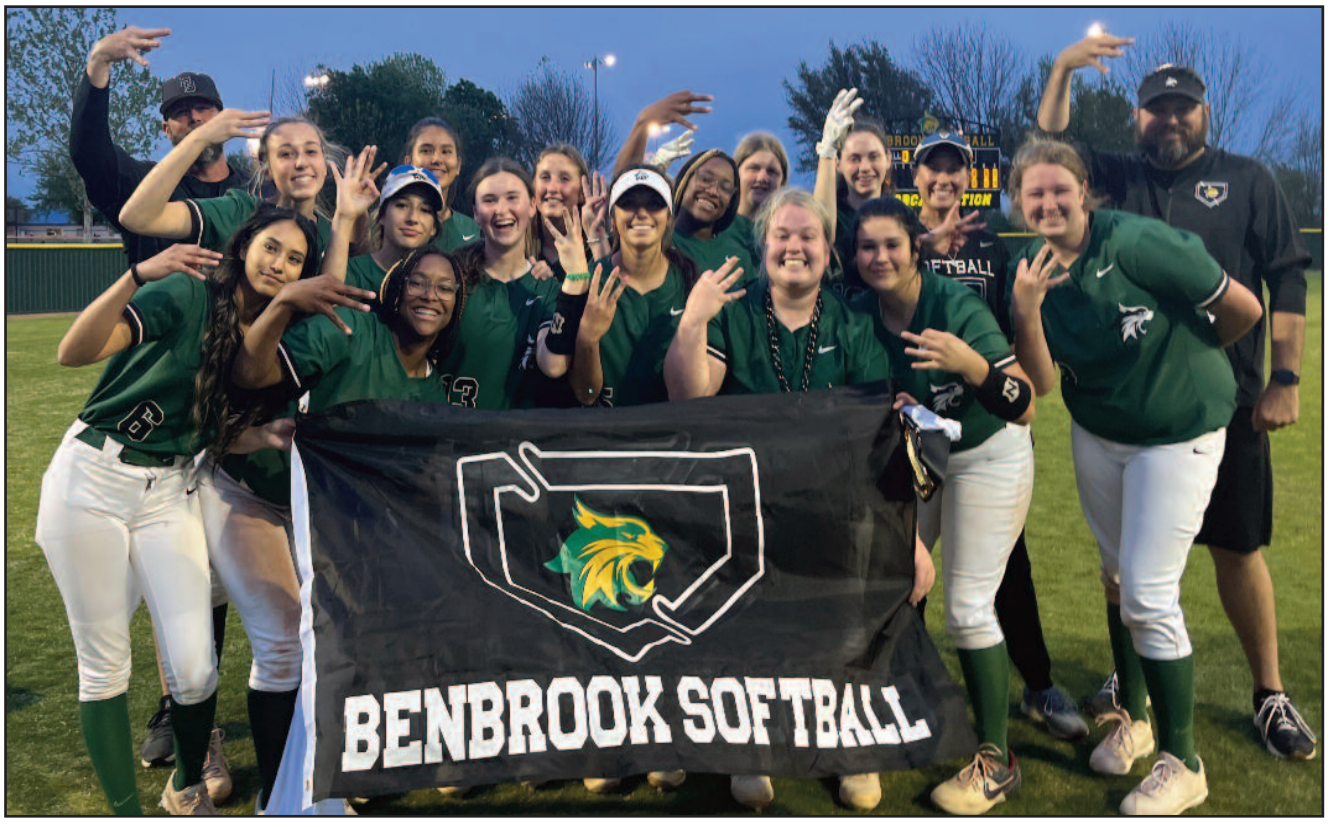
From the Sports Desk with John English

WHHS and BMHS Softball and Baseball Teams are Playoff Bound



The Benbrook softball team won their third consecutive undefeated district championship this season with a victory over Western Hills this past week, and coach Becca Wessels said she could not be more proud of her team.

"This season has really impressed me on the versatility we possess, everyone willing to play whatever position we put them at, and the positive attitudes among our girls," Wessels said. "This is a fun group to have and overall a team full of good-hearted people."

Josie Goins finished with 12 strikeouts and only allowed 1 hit against the Cougars, while Kaitlyn Gregory "battled at the plate with the walk-off hit to win the game against Western Hills."

Benbrook opens the playoffs against Springtown beginning tonight at 6:30 p.m. with game two at 6 p.m. tomorrow night.

Game 3, if needed, will be played at 8 p.m. tomorrow night.

The series will be played at Cleburne High School.

(continued on page 7)

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Benbrook Council Action by John English

City Property Trespass Warning Resolution Passes

The Benbrook city council meeting on April 21 was conducted in person.

Mayor Jason Ward called the meeting to order. Ward allowed an opportunity for citizen comments on any agenda item for up to three minutes, and resident Terry Roach, addressed the council.

"I was detained for trespassing, and I'm here to declare that I was guilty," Roach said. "Don't follow my example. I was at Benbrook lake, it was 35 years ago and before body camera video. I was naked with a group from my senior high school—one of them is the head of the water board in another city. They're all respectful men; I'm not going to name names...more recently, it's not been so funny, because trespassing has been the excuse to detain me...and I believe in our freedoms here in America." Roach went on to say he has never received a single reason for his most recent detainment "that makes sense" and then read a statement an officer made at the time of the detainment.

Roach ultimately had to be informed by Ward that his three minutes had expired.

The minutes from the council meeting held on April 7 were then approved.

Next up was a motion to accept the city's finance report ending on March 31. For the general fund, the fiscal year to date revenues were $17,493,697 and for the month of March were $1,531,765. Expenditures year to date were $8,231,559 and for the month

(continued on page 4)

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From the Project Linus Blanketeers

Benbrook Quilt Club, Project Linus Volunteers Needed

The Benbrook Quilt Club meets the last Saturday of each month from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at First Baptist Church of Benbrook located at 1015 McKinley Street. This month's meeting will be held Saturday, April 30.

The members of this group are Tarrant County Chapter Project Linus blanketeers creating handmade quilts and blankets that provide love, warmth, and comfort for local children who have suffered trauma, tragedy, or illness. Sadly, the need for these blankets increases each month. They desperately need volunteers with portable sewing machines to help assemble the quilts.

Regardless of your experience, there is a place for you. High school students can receive community service credits for participating. Donations of material or money to purchase material are greatly appreciated.

Come join the fun and enjoy fellowship with the Quilt Club volunteers while making a difference in our community and being a blessing to others.

For more information about the mission of Project Linus, visit www.projectlinus.org.

For more information on this group and meetings, call Virginia Biela at 817-244-1263.

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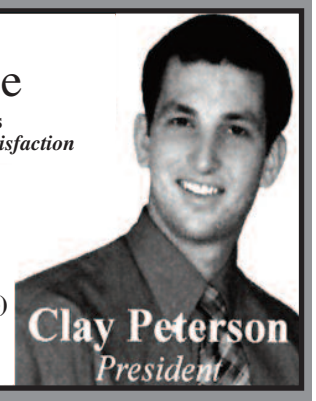

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City Council Action (continued from page 1)

of March were $1,571,245. For the Economic Development Corporation, year to date revenues were $921,370 while revenues through the end of March were $115,812, and expenditures year to date were $286,880 and for the month of March were $103,637. Investments for the City of Benbrook were $52,652,720 and for the EDC it was $5,890,018. The council accepted the finance report unanimously.

Next up was to approve the investment report ending on March 31. The investment portfolio break down was $47,009,805 in bank accounts, $5,734,826 in investment pools, $500,000 in an agency note, $248,000 in a treasury note and $5,050,107 in certificates of deposit. The council accepted the investment report unanimously.

The next item was a proposal to adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 10.24 of the Benbrook municipal code by revising speed limits to create a school zone on Vista Way.

The Basis Charter school, which is set to open in August, has requested a school zone along Vista Way in front of their new school. The zone will start approximately 260 feet north of Sproles Drive to 150 feet north of Sterling Drive. The ordinance was adopted unanimously.

Next up was a motion to approve a resolution establishing an administrative regulation (AR) for trespass warnings on city property. According to the council agenda, the AR establishes a process to issue trespass warnings for conduct that includes, but is not limited to: park and other curfew violations, park rules violations, failure to pay required fees for facility use, facility use violations, noise ordinance violations, interfering with another person's reasonable use and enjoyment of approved activities on city property and any other city ordinance violation. An immediate trespass warning may also be issued for conduct that is unreasonably disruptive or harmful to city property, to conducting city business, or to another's reasonable use and enjoyment of approved activities on city property.

Council member Renee Franklin asked City Manager Andy Wayman how citizens will know what is city property and what is not city property.

"Generally, it would be public parks, city facilities like city hall or the police department, fire department, public works building, the animal shelter—city facilities," Wayman said. "We own very little undeveloped property. We own a few pieces, but those are not the kinds of properties that people would be hanging out at. I think it's going be pretty obvious to people, and I hope we never have to use this." The motion passed unanimously.

Time was then allowed for informal citizen comments, but there were none.

Council member and staff comments were then allowed, and Franklin mentioned the Healthy Kids Day at the Benbrook YMCA from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 30 and Benbrook Elementary Spring Fling from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. the same day.

Ward then thanked citizens who come to the meetings and watch online for taking an interest in local government.

The meeting was then adjourned.

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Sale to be held online at www.selfstorageauction.com. Facility is located at 8460 Boat Club Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76179. Bidding will open April 21, 2022 at 8 a.m. and will conclude May 7, 2022 at 9 a.m. Cleanup deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold as-is to highest bidder.

Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenant: James W Hurst, 111- tool boxes with tools and misc household items.

From Benbrook Public Library

Weekly GED Preparation Classes at Benbrook Public Library

On Wednesday, May 4, the library will begin registration for weekly GED preparation classes. The classes, which will meet every Wednesday from 6 to 9 p.m. beginning June 1, are free of charge. Registration will be held Wednesday, May 4, Thursday, May 5, and Wednesday, May 11 at 6 p.m. at the library. Anyone 18 years of age or older who is not currently enrolled in school may register.

For questions, contact the library at 817-249-6632.

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Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenant: Bradley Herring - Furniture, boxes and misc household items.

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From Mary Isham Keith Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution

Women in American History Awards Presented by DAR

In celebration of American History Month, Mary Isham Keith Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution honored five members with the prestigious Women in American History Awards based on their outstanding service in various fields.

Pictured are: (l-r) **Joye Kirk Evetts** for community service and historic preservation efforts; Dr. **Judith Carrier** for education and community leadership; Dr. **Linda Hines** for mathematics and educational contributions; **Paula Grigsby Smith** for educational contributions and leadership; and **Welba Smith Dorsey** for historic preservation and educational efforts.

Contact www.dar.org/ for information about DAR and its programs.

From North Central Texas Council of Governments

Regional Coordination Committee April Presentations, July Meeting

The presentations from the Monday, April 18 NAS JRB Fort Worth Regional Coordination Committee (RCC) meeting have been posted online at **www.nctcog.org/rcc**.

The approved January 2022 meeting summary is also posted there.

Also, note the updated RCC bylaws, approved at the January meeting, have been posted.

The next RCC meeting will be hosted on Monday, July 18 at 1:30 pm at the Pecan Grove Conference Center, 405 N. Las Vegas Trail, White Settlement.

For questions, contact Communications Supervisor Kyle Roy at 817-704-5610.

From 4PAWS

4 PAWS Places Memorial Stone at Benbrook Animal Shelter

4 PAWS dedicated a stone at the Benbrook Animal Shelter garden in honor and memory of Darlene Kalil on Saturday, April 16. Darlene was a dedicated member and treasurer of 4 PAWS since 2002. She had a love for animals and made it her mission to find homes for needy pets.

Pictured left are Darlene's great-niece **Madeline Hayden**, niece **Donna Sauma** and her husband, **Brian Hayden**.

Contact the Benbrook Animal Shelter at 817-249-1882

Pictured above are: (l-r) **Lynda Monaco, Teresa Stichnot, Penny Hardy, Rick Hunter, Sebastian Donofrio, Trisha Love, Margarite Zamora, Brian Hayden, Donna Sauma, Madeline Hayden, Renee Franklin** and **Caroline Lausch**.

4PAWS Pet Adoptions are available at the Benbrook Animal Shelter located at 469 Winscott Rd.
Fridays & Saturdays: 10am-2pm • Sundays: 11am-3pm

Texas History Minute

Texas and the Ratification of the 25th Amendment *by Dr. Ken Bridges*

In the aftermath of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963, the nation soon asked questions about the presidency. Questions arose about what would have happened if Kennedy had somehow survived but with a severe brain injury or surviving only on life support systems beginning to become available at the time. Vice-President Lyndon Johnson had now become president, and he discussed these concerns with aides and members of Congress. The result was a new amendment to the Constitution.

Including the murder of Kennedy, eight presidents had died in office. Seven vice-presidents had died in office, and one had resigned up to 1964. In spite of these circumstances, the Constitution never made clear what would happen if the presidency became vacant, simply stating that the vice-president would assume the duties of the president, not necessarily becoming president. And the vice-presidency itself would remain vacant until a new one was elected.

Other scenarios prompted questions as to what would happen if a president were somehow physically incapacitated or mentally or psychologically unable to serve. When President Woodrow Wilson had a massive stroke in 1919, he was initially left mostly paralyzed and almost completely uncommunicative for days before he began to recover. Even the most modest medical techniques to treat stroke patients were still decades away. Vice-President Thomas Marshall refused to assume the duties of the presidency while Wilson convalesced, fearing the dangerous precedent it could set as the Constitution provided no guidance for such a situation. Wilson never fully recovered.

Sometimes the vice-presidents themselves posed special problems. Vice-President Aaron Burr killed former Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton in an 1804 duel and faced murder charges in New York and New Jersey. Vice-Presidents Daniel Tompkins and Andrew Johnson were both alcoholics. Johnson appeared at his own inauguration as vice-president in 1865 completely drunk.

President Dwight Eisenhower suffered a major heart attack in 1956 that left him incapacitated for several weeks. The tensions of the Cold War only emphasized the need for president being able to make difficult decisions without delay.

When Johnson delivered his State of the Union Address in January 1964, the image was striking: the next two men in line to the presidency were Senate President pro tem Carl Hayden, the 86-year-old veteran Arizona Senator, and House Speaker John McCormack of Massachusetts, age 72. There was no vice-president sitting behind him as the position had been vacant since Johnson, who himself had a heart attack years before, became president two months earlier.

Sen. Birch Bayh of Indiana and Rep. Emmanuel Celler of New York introduced an amendment in 1965. What became the 25th Amendment enshrined into the Constitution that the vice-president would become the president in power and name if the presidency was vacated. The vice-presidency would be filled by a nomination made by the president and approved by a majority vote of both houses of Congress. The president can voluntarily sign over his duties temporarily to the vice-president as acting president in a letter to Congress.

However, the vice-president and a majority of the presidential cabinet (now numbering 15) inform Congress that the president cannot perform his duties, and the vice-president immediately becomes acting president. However, if a dispute ever arose between the president and his cabinet over his disability, the president can report to Congress that no disability exists and remain president. If the cabinet persists, then Congress settles the matter and must vote within 21 days whether the president is fit.

The House passed the final version by a voice vote on June 30. On July 6, the Senate voted to approve it. The vote was split among Texas's two U. S. Senators. Democrat Ralph Yarbrough voted in favor of it, while Republican John Tower was one of only five to vote against it. The issue hit especially close to Yarbrough since he had been in the same motorcade with Kennedy on that day in 1963.

Nevada became the 38th state to ratify the amendment on February 10, 1967. Forty-seven states would ratify it. In spite of the support of the state's political heavy-hitters supporting the amendment, Texas was one of the last states to ratify the amendment. Because of the state's biennial legislative sessions, the state legislature was out of session when Congress passed the amendment in the summer of 1965 and throughout 1966. Because of its position on the legislative calendar for the 1967 session, it was not ratified until April 25, becoming the next-to-last state to ratify it.

Within the next few decades, the amendment would be invoked on several occasions. Vice-President Spiro Agnew resigned in 1973 following a conviction on income tax evasion charges. President Richard Nixon selected Congressman Gerald Ford to be the new vice-president. Nixon was forced to resign in 1974 in the wake of the Watergate scandal, making Ford the new president. Ford then chose former New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller as his vice-president, which was quickly approved by Congress. When President Ronald Reagan underwent surgery in 1985, Vice-President George Bush became acting president while Reagan was under anesthesia.

Questions, however, still persist about how the amendment should be utilized, especially if presidents should fall prey to illness that very gradually robbed them of their reasoning abilities or a mental illness.

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Sports Desk (continued from page 1)

The Western Hills softball team also clinched a playoff berth this past week, finishing 5-5 on the regular season and facing Decatur in the opening round of the playoffs.

Coach Austin Valdez there are good things to take away from the regular season and the future looks bright for the Western Hills softball program.

"We had our ups and downs," Valdez said. "We can only get better from here. I think we have a good core of girls that will only continue to improve."

Western Hills will play Decatur at a time and date to be determined.

The Cougar baseball team also answered the bell last week, sweeping their final two games with Eastern Hills to claim the fourth and final playoff spot.

Western Hills won 15-4, 15-2 in the two-game series with the Highlanders, and coach Brady Ribinskas said his team really stepped up.

"The team put up a strong performance on Friday night both defensively and at the plate to finish the district schedule strong," Ribinskas said.

Western Hills opens the playoffs with Argyle at a time and date to be determined.

The Benbrook baseball team defeated Diamond Hill-Jarvis on Friday night to claim the 8-4A district championship for the third straight season.

Reflecting on the regular season, coach Justin Chavez said

"I think our non-district schedule has helped us tremendously when you talk about this time of year and getting ready for the playoffs. We faced 17 non District games we have played 14 of those teams are headed to the playoffs so we are easy to go."

Benbrook will face either Castleberry or Springtown in the bi-district round which had not been determined at the time the paper went to press, but either way, Chavez said his team will be ready.

"We will scout them this week and know by the end of the night next Friday who we will play," Chavez said on Saturday. "We will play two warm up games at home next weekend versus Waxahachie Life and Hamilton (both are playoff bound). We are excited and ready for the next part of our season."

In track and field, Benbrook's girls 4X100 meter team finished second with a time of 50.49 and the 4X400 team won an area championship with a time of 4:07.52. Madison Sorrell won an area championship in the shot put with a throw of 38-09.00 and took second place in the girls discus, with a throw o f 121-04.00.

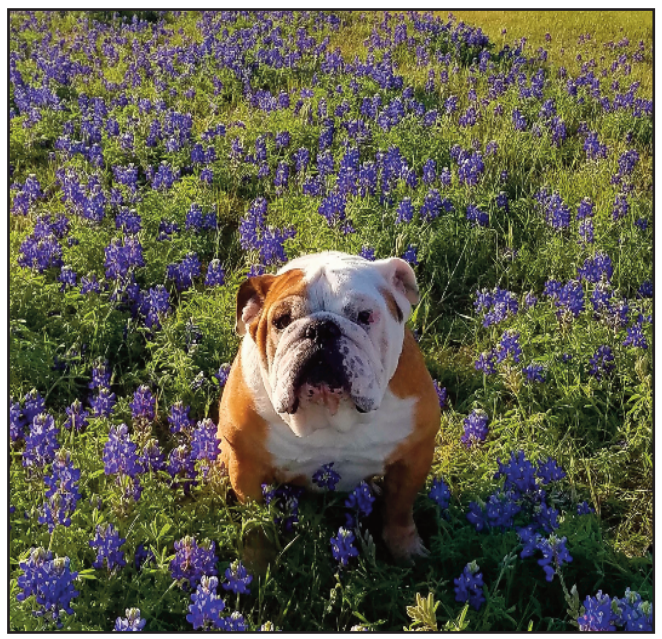
Eric Reyes finished third in the boys 3,200 meter event with a time of 9:57.48, while Breezy Butler finished third in the girls 300 meter hurdles with a time of 47.99.

Over at Western Hills, Aaron Martin finished third in the 100 meter dash with a time of 10.89, and the boys 4X200 meter relay finished second with a time of 1:31.57.

Majavion Washington finished third in the triple jump with a length of 42-09.00 and Caleb Clark took third place in the boys discus with a throw of 125-04.00

From Suburban Newspapers Staff Writers

Bluebonnet Fields Forever



A reader recently noticed our call for bluebonnet photo submissions and sent this in to our office.

Gunny Bear Barton was happy to pose for a precious photo in our state flower!

Submit photos to suburbannews@sbcglobal.net and be sure to list names.

From Fort Worth ISD

FWISD Board of Education Adjusts Meeting Guidelines

The Fort Worth ISD (FWISD) Board of Education (BOE) has adjusted meeting guidelines to improve efficiency and allow full public engagement.

Effective immediately, participants may address the Board with items on the agenda or general comments not listed on the agenda during one public comment period. In addition, guidelines regarding meeting decorum prohibit verbal, audio, or physical disruptions during the meeting.

Below is the complete set of FWISD Board of Education meeting guidelines, including adjustments to items 4, 5, and 11. These guidelines are also posted on the District's website at www.fwisd.org/board:

1. Following the posting of the Board meeting agenda, anyone desiring to make a public comment may sign-up by calling 817-814-1920 by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting and may sign-up at the meeting until 5:20 p.m. Individuals desiring to make a public comment by written statement may email amanda.coleman@fwisd.org by noon the day of the meeting. Written statements will be shared with the Board of Trustees prior to the meeting and will not be read aloud during the Board meeting.

2. Board members may not engage in a verbal exchange about a subject that has not been posted. The Board may reply with: (1) a statement of specific factual information given in response to the inquiry; (2) recitation of existing policy in response to the inquiry; or (3) direct the person to visit with staff about the issue.

3. Participants must specify the agenda item(s) or topic(s) of their comment(s).

4. Participants addressing items on the agenda will speak during the public comment portion of the meeting.

5. Participants that are addressing the Board with comments of a general nature or on topics not specifically listed on the agenda will speak during the public comment portion of the meeting.

6. No presentation shall exceed three (3) minutes unless the speaker receives prior approval for additional time because of the use of a translator. When necessary for effective meeting management or to accommodate large numbers of individuals wishing to address the Board, the time allotted for each speaker will be one (1) minute when the number of speakers exceeds twenty (20) persons. The allotted time will begin counting down as soon as the speaker begins speaking.

7. Participants who require the assistance of a translator are permitted double the allotted time of participants who do not require the assistance of a translator.

8. Participants may not relinquish their time to another speaker.

9. Participants and members of the audience are allowed to bring signs during the meeting, but such signs shall be limited to a standard poster board size, no larger than 22"x28". Individual signs that when put together form a larger sign need to comply with the 22"x28" size requirement as measured when the signs are put together.

10. Speakers should practice normal rules of decorum. Vulgar language and profanity will not be tolerated.

11. The Board shall not tolerate disruption of the meeting by members of the audience to include verbal, audio or physical disruptions. If, after at least one warning from the presiding officer, any individual continues to disrupt the meeting by his or her words or actions, the presiding officer may request assistance from law enforcement officials to have the individual removed from the meeting. See Board Policy **BED(LOCAL)**.

12. Any employee, parent, or other member of the public is asked to comply with the appropriate grievance policy to have a complaint heard pursuant to the applicable Board policy. See Board Policies **DGBA**, **FNG**, and **GF**.

FWISD meeting guidelines may be adjusted by the Board of Education as needed to accommodate large number of individuals wishing to address the Board.

All BOE meetings will continue to be held at the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC), 1050 Bridgewood Dr., in Fort Worth, unless otherwise announced.

Meetings are live streamed on the Fort Worth ISD LIVE channel on YouTube as well as Spectrum (Charter) Channel 192 and AT&T U-verse 99. A video recording of each meeting will be posted the following day on all of those platforms.

The Board of Education appreciates the public's compliance with the adjusted guidelines that serve to effectively conduct District business.

From Fort Worth ISD

Fort Worth ISD Announces Graduation Schedule

Venues for this spring's graduation ceremonies include the Wilkerson-Greines Activity Center, Dickies Arena, and the Boulevard Heights Outdoor Facility and will take place May 31 through June 4, 2022.

Fort Worth ISD 2021-2022 Spring Graduation Schedule

Friday, June 3
Benbrook Middle High School
Dickies Arena, 4 p.m.

Saturday, June 4
Western Hills High School
Dickies Arena, 8 a.m.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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817-831-2600
817-615-7164

Bill Blankenship Contracting Inc.
817-831-4000
contractingblankenship@outlook.com

FENCING
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K And K Fencing
817-219-0649

BOB YOUNG Fencing
817-495-5543
bobyoungfences@hotmail.com

ROOFING
ECE ROOFING LLC
817-831-2600
817-615-7164

SERVICES PROVIDED
COLUMBIA College
817-377-3276
ftworth@CCIS.edu

AMERICAN LEGION Post 297
817-249-2791
alpost297@sbcglobal.net

PLUMBING
PLUMBING by Richard
817-907-0472
rvmunoz001@gmail.com

LONNIE BRAVO Plumbing
817-715-6747
lonniebravo@sbcglobal.net

Bill Blankenship Contracting Inc.
817-831-4000
contractingblankenship@outlook.com

Three Day Weekend Forecast

Friday, April 29:

AM - Partly sunny; high near 86. Breezy, south wind 15-25mph; gusts as high as 35mph.
PM - Mostly clear; low around 69. South wind 15-20mph; gusts as high as 30mph.

Saturday, April 30:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 88. S/SW wind around 15mph becoming west in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 25mph.
PM - A 20 % chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1am. Mostly clear; low around 62.

Sunday, May 1:

AM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny; high near 85.
PM - A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy; low around 62.

Extended Forecast Click Here